



Early Journal Content on JSTOR, Free to Anyone in the World

This article is one of nearly 500,000 scholarly works digitized and made freely available to everyone in the world by JSTOR.

Known as the Early Journal Content, this set of works include research articles, news, letters, and other writings published in more than 200 of the oldest leading academic journals. The works date from the mid-seventeenth to the early twentieth centuries.

We encourage people to read and share the Early Journal Content openly and to tell others that this resource exists. People may post this content online or redistribute in any way for non-commercial purposes.

Read more about Early Journal Content at <http://about.jstor.org/participate-jstor/individuals/early-journal-content>.

JSTOR is a digital library of academic journals, books, and primary source objects. JSTOR helps people discover, use, and build upon a wide range of content through a powerful research and teaching platform, and preserves this content for future generations. JSTOR is part of ITHAKA, a not-for-profit organization that also includes Ithaka S+R and Portico. For more information about JSTOR, please contact support@jstor.org.

ous, it is inertia that kills. In the nursing world today there is no room for the laggard. You are compelled to keep up with the procession, or make room for some one else. It is up to you whether your alumnae association is to be one of the "trail blazers" in advancing the profession of nursing, or simply a "trailer."

Maryland

I. G. F.

A PLACE FOR THE PRACTICAL NURSE

DEAR EDITOR: Hi yi yi! what a stir that *Pictorial Review* article has made! A writer in *The Trained Nurse* is fairly foaming at the mouth about it. She cites a case of a practical nurse who was receiving seventy dollars a week for her services. Yes, and we have heard of a man riding Niagara Falls in a barrel. Fortunately he was the exception, and not the rule. Are practical nurses mercenary? What about the practical nurses who took up the ashes, tended the fires, washed dishes, washed and ironed, and sat up many nights with their sick neighbors, actuated by no other motive than compassion? What of the host of brave mothers who have brought their loved ones safely through critical illnesses? I am not "slamming" the trained nurse. I regret often and deeply that I have not had the hospital training. I am, however, making a next best substitute with earnest effort, untiring study, a passionate love of my work, exquisite cleanliness, and above all, a deep love for humanity. I have learned many things from kindly doctors and trained nurses: the use of the thermometer, the catheter, hypodermic needle, etc., and I am mighty glad to pass this knowledge on to anyone else who really loves the work and is naturally equipped for it with cheerfulness, neatness, and kindliness. A dear old paralytic lady, who had but a few days to live said to me in tremulous tones, intense with appreciation: "There is comfort in your voice." That's what we want in the profession, "comfort in the voice," as well as a knowledge of hypos, dietetics and anatomy.

Pomeroy, Pa.

M. P. A.

A NOVEL VACATION FOR A NURSE

DEAR EDITOR: Two years ago, in the early spring, after a strenuous winter spent largely in catering to the whims of private patients, I was looking through the pages of a popular magazine and was much attracted by a number of alluring advertisements of summer camps for boys and girls. I noticed in several of these the item, "resident nurse." Now one of the most cherished ambitions of my younger days has been to spend the summer as a camper at one of these playgrounds, but the state of my family's finances had never permitted me to realize this dream. But now, why not go in the capacity of camp nurse? This sudden inspiration filled me with such joy that I could scarcely control my emotion, for I was yet young and the anticipation of a summer in the open was almost too much. The financial reimbursement might not be equal to my usual income but, after all, was not health my best asset? and could I conserve it in a pleasanter way than this? Knowing nothing of the comparative merits of the camps, I determined to investigate thoroughly before attaching myself to any. I composed a carefully worded letter, stating my professional qualifications, expressing my love of young people and of out-door life and offering my services as camp nurse at a moderate salary. A typed copy of this letter, with a copy of a recommendation from the superintendent of my training school, I forwarded to the directors of a number of camps which I had selected because of long establishment, location, and personnel. In a few days I was showered with camp booklets and requests for interviews. It was not long before I had signed a contract for a nine weeks' engagement as camp nurse for a well organ-

ized girls' camp in Vermont. How happy I was as I hastened to collect my outfit, for a white uniform would be quite out of place and I was to wear the regular camp costume of bloomers, middy and sneakers, and to sleep in a tent. Oh, joyful bliss! Although I had charge of the physical well-being of 125 girls, from 7 to 14 years of age, my duties were far from strenuous. At the opening of camp, each girl was given a physical examination by a physician. Only two or three of the whole number were restricted from the more severe camp activities. Their weights and measurements were taken by the physical instructor and myself at the beginning and end of the season, a record being sent to the parents of each girl. In almost every case the gain in weight, muscular development and general health was remarkable. A very good hospital, twenty miles away, cared for the only serious cases we had,—one of sub-acute appendicitis, requiring operation, and a fracture of the radius. Numberless cuts and scratches responded readily to applications of iodine, while colds were almost unknown in spite of wet feet and hikes in the rain. In fact, the two beds in my hospital shack remained almost deserted all summer long and this lack of patients gave me ample time for sports of all kinds. Short talks on First Aid and Personal Hygiene were given from time to time. That summer was one not soon to be forgotten. The invigorating air, long horseback rides through woodsy trails, cool swims in the lake, canoe trips, a night on a mountain top, rolled in blankets, 'neath the starry heavens, the comradeship of girls and councillors, all filled me with a content I had never known before. When I returned to the city in the fall,—brown, firm of muscle, the red blood of health and vigor coursing through my veins,—my one regret was that more nurses could not have enjoyed the same privilege. Although such opportunities are somewhat limited in number, I cannot too strongly recommend a similar vacation for any nurse who loves youth and nature.

New Jersey

L. R. T.

JOURNALS ON HAND

MRS. EDITH NORRIS SWAIN, 220 Chilton Street, Elizabeth, N. J., has the JOURNAL from December, 1918, to December, 1921, which she will send to any one paying the postage.

Ruth Brewster Sherman, 219½ East North Avenue, Baltimore, Md., has volumes I to X, inclusive, of the JOURNAL, bound in dark green cloth, perfect condition. Price, \$5 and expressage.

Edna Flanagan, Abilene, Kansas, offers the following numbers of the JOURNAL: 1916, June through December; 1917, January through September; 1918, January, May, June, August, November and December; 1919, 1920, and 1921, complete.

The National Committee for Mental Hygiene, 370 Seventh Avenue, New York City, has recently prepared a list of its publications which it distributes. It has also prepared a brief list of carefully selected books treating of mental hygiene.